
III. *YOUR BUSINESS TRIP TO COLOMBIA*

Advise and Consult the Canadian Embassy

When planning business visits to Colombia, advise the Commercial Division of the Canadian Embassy well in advance by air mail (minimum three weeks) or telex. Provide complete details of the purpose of your visit, the products involved and what arrangements are required. With this information, the commercial staff will be pleased to arrange a tentative itinerary, appointment schedules and other pertinent details of your visit to maximize the use of available time. You may also wish to contact the South American Trade Development Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa.

As noted, it is often necessary to travel outside Bogotá and time should be allowed for this. An absolute minimum of three days in Bogotá is required.

When to Go

Almost any season is suitable depending on the area to be visited. Remember that the climate changes considerably with the altitude. Mid-December to mid-January and Holy Week are popular holiday periods and travel should be avoided. Bogotá does not celebrate Carnival but other cities do, particularly Barranquilla. Visitors should check the list of holidays since many business people will take a longer weekend when holidays fall on Monday-Tuesday, or Thursday-Friday.

How to Get There

There are good air connections from eastern Canada via New York and Miami, and from western Canada through Los Angeles. There are also good connections with the other major cities of Latin America through Mexico City, Panama, Caracas, Quito, Lima and Sao Paulo.

Travel in Colombia

Most business travel in Colombia is by air because of transport problems in the mountainous terrain. Air routes are well developed. Rail and road travel have traditionally been